GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2804
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2005
NEWSPAPERS AND WEEKLIES
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and big newspapers and weeklies being published in the country as on December 31, 2004;

(b) the details of the newspapers out of them included in the list meant for giving advertisements to them;

(c) the newspapers whose applications for inclusion in the advertisement list pending as on December 31, 2004; and

(d) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING & CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) has reported that, according to the annual statements submitted by the publishers, 5591 newspapers including periodicals have been published in the country as on 31st March, 2004. Out of this, 4114 were small, 1195 medium and 282 were big. The information as on 31st December, 2004, has not yet been finalised.

(b) The details of small/medium and big Newspapers and periodicals empanelled with Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) as on 31.12.2004 are as under:

(i) Small - 1539

(ii) Medium - 642

(iii) Big - 182

Total - 2363

(c) & (d) Applications of 1429 newspapers were pending in DAVP as on 31.12.2004. These applications were scrutinised and the cases of 713 newspapers and periodicals were approved for empanelment with DAVP during February and March, 2005. The cases of remaining applications would be examined as per procedure, subject to receipt of the complete documents from the publishers and after fulfilment of the conditionalities prescribed in the Advertisement policy of the Government and guidelines for empanelment of newspapers with DAVP.